GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5170
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2007
ELECTORAL ROLLS
Deshmukh Shri Subhash Sureshchandra

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to imprint photographs of the electors in the electoral rolls in order to stop bogus voting; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ)

(a) and (b): A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) and (b) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 5170 for 11.05.2007.

The Election Commission of India has intimated that in the year 2004, a pilot project was undertaken in Kerala and Haryana for photo electoral rolls and the results were encouraging. The photo electoral roll (Voter`s list) bears the photograph of the electors in addition to all the other particulars like names, age, sex, relation`s name, house number and the Electors` Photo Identity Card number which are normally printed in electoral roll without photograph. The present status of photo electoral rolls after the revision of 2005, 2006 and the ongoing revision of 2007 is as under :-

A. States/ Union territories fully covered/proposed to be covered during the 2007 revision:- (1) Haryana, (2) Himachal Pradesh, (3) Kerala, (4) Madhya Pradesh, (5) Meghalaya, >(6) Mizoram, (7) Rajasthan, (8) Tamil Nadu, (9) Tripura, (10) Chandigarh, (11) Lakshadweep and (12) Puducherry.

B. States/ Union territories partially covered/proposed to be covered during the 2007 revision:- (1) Andhra Pradesh - 13 assembly constituencies; (2) Bihar- 5 assembly constituencies; (3) Gujarat- 14 assembly constituencies; (4) Jharkhand-5 assembly constituencies; (5) Karnataka- 5 assembly constituencies; (6) Punjab-1 assembly constituency; (7) West Bengal- 141 assembly constituencies.

2. The aim of the Election Commission is to achieve the objective of covering the entire country with photo electoral rolls by 2009 revision of electoral rolls before the next general elections to the Lok Sabha.